

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/909,196

Examiner

Negussie Worku

Applicant(s)

SATO ET AL

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to May 19, 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-4,7-9,11-12,14-16,19-21 and 23-27.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

Negussie Worku
7/13/06

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

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DETAILED ACTION

Reasons for Allowance

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: In response to the Office action dated February 23, 2006, and further to the amendments filed May 19, 2006, applicant's request in view of the amendments and remarks have been reviewed and respectfully considered.

According to applicant's response claims 26, 25 and 27 have been amended or/and written as independent claims to include the allowed subject matter that contained in claims 26 and 27, as indicated in the last Office action. Claims 1, 5, 6, 10, 13, 17, 18 and 22 have been currently cancelled. Claims 2-4, 7-9, 11-12, 14-16, 19-21 and 23-27 are currently pending and have been examined.

Applicant's arguments/remarks as indicated on page 7 through 8, are believed to be distinct from the prior art (Suzuki) used to reject the application. And the only rejected independent claim 1 in the last Office action [over 112 2nd paragraph and 102 (e) rejection] with regard to claims 1, have been withdrawn for the reason claim 1 has been cancelled and amended as indicated in page 2 through 8 of applicant's response.

Therefore, claims 2-4, 7-9, 11-12, 14-16, 19-21 and 23-27 are allowed for the reason discussed below.

With regard to claims 25, the prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests the claimed invention as amended. Specifically, first computer readable program code means for updating correction data stored in the memory when a scan count has reached a predetermined value; and second computer readable program code means for generating correction data corresponding to the scan mode third computer readable program code means for checking upon scanning an image if correction data corresponding to a scan mode of that image scan operation is stored in said memory; fourth computer readable program code means for, if the correction data is not stored, controlling to generate correction data corresponding to the scan mode; and fifth computer readable program code means for executing an image scan using the generated correction.

With regard to claims 26, 2-4, 7-9, 11 and 12, the prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests an image scanning system capable of scanning an image in a plurality of scan modes, a controller adapted to update correction data stored in said memory when a scan count has reached a predetermined value, wherein said controller checks upon scanning an image if correction data corresponding to a scan mode of that image scan operation is stored in said memory, and if the correction data is not stored, controls to generate correction data corresponding to the scan mode, and to execute an image scan using the generated correction data.

With regard to claims 27, 14-16, 19-21 and 23-27, the prior art searched and of record neither anticipates nor suggests updating correction data stored in the memory when a scan count has reached a predetermined value; scanning an image in one of said plurality of scan modes; correcting the scanned image using the correction data, stored in the memory, corresponding to the scan mode used in scanning the image; checking upon scanning an image if correction data corresponding to a scan mode of that image scan operation is stored in said memory; if the correction data is not stored, controlling to generate correction data corresponding to the scan mode; and executing an image scan using the generated correction.

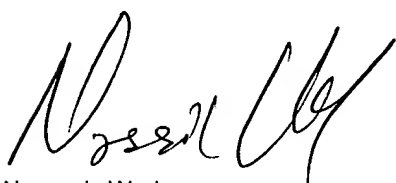
2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Negussie Worku whose telephone number is 571-272-7472. The examiner can normally be reached on 9am-6pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David Moore, can be reached on 571-272-7437. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should

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you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Negussie Worku

07/15/06

DOUGLAS Q. TRAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
